AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A notification system, comprising:

a monitor that monitors a state of a device ~~likely available states of an entity~~, the monitor derives a context of a user from the state of the device and based at least in part on the context the monitor infers a likely available state of the user; and

a bounding system that classifies a notification to the ~~entity~~ user with a predefined notification priority ~~according to a predefined protocol and the likely available states~~, the bounding system facilitating deferral of the notification based at least in part on the notification ~~classification~~ priority and the likely available state of the user, the bounding system establishes a group of notifications associated with ~~disparate likely~~ first and second ~~available states~~ priorities and forwards the group of notifications ~~associated with the disparate likely available states~~ to the user ~~entity~~ based on an occurrence of a highest ~~likely state~~ priority affiliated with at least one notification included in the group of notifications, content of the at least one notification included in the group of notifications is presented to the user ~~entity~~ in its entirety, content of notifications associated with lesser priorities ~~likely states~~ included in the group of notifications [[is]] are displayed for the ~~entity~~ user as a summary.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the predefined priority is assigned based upon the happening of a condition.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[2]]3, further comprising a subscription user interface to enable users to configure attributes of a notification, wherein the bounding system that classifies a notification with a predefined priority, classifies the notification with a predefined priority based at least in part on the attributes of the notification.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the attributes are defined in a notification schema.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, the notification schema further comprising at least one of a notification class, a source, a source assigned priority, a sender, a target, one or more content components, a relevant context, ~~and~~ or advanced attributes.

7. (Original) The system of claim 5, further comprising a preferences profile for assigning priority based upon settings in the notification schema.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the monitor derives the context based at least in part from at least one of a calendar[[,]] or a time of day~~, a device activity, and a user location~~.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the context ~~is likely available states are determined from~~ includes at least one of ~~an indication by the user,~~ an office setting, an environment setting, an activity setting, ~~and~~ or a driving setting.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising a notification agent that directs notifications from one or more sources to one or more notification sinks based at least in part on the predefined protocol and the likely available state[[s]].

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising a max deferral setting that is associated with a notification priority to enable at least one of a delivery of the notification at a time-out of the max deferral, and deferral of the notification to the likely available ~~free~~ state being free.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19, further comprising a setting to enable designated notifications to at least one of be passed-through, and restricted during designated periods.

21. (New) A method comprising:

monitoring a state of a device;

deriving a context of a user from the state of the device;

inferring a likely available state of the user from the context;

classifying a first notification based on a predefined notification classification as a first classification;

deferring the first notification directed to the user based on the first classification and the likely available state of the user;

classifying a second notification based on the predefined notification classification as a second classification, the second classification being different from the first classification;

deferring the second notification directed to the user based on the second classification and the likely available state of the user;

establishing a group of notifications including the first and second notifications;

determining that the second notification should be forwarded to the user;

forwarding the group of notifications to the user based at least in part on determining that the second notification should be forwarded;

presenting a content of the second notification included in the group of notifications to the user in its entirety; and

presenting a content of the first notification as a summary.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein classifying the first notification includes classifying the first notification based at least in part on a source of the first notification, a source assigned priority of the first notification, one or more content components of the first notification, of a relevant context of the first priority.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, further comprising receiving input from the user through a subscription user interface to configure attributes of a notification to be considered in the predefined notification classification.

24. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein monitoring a state of a device includes monitoring at least one of a calendar, a time of day, a device activity, or a user location.

25. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein determining that the second notification should be forwarded to the user includes determining an age of the second notification as exceeding a second max deferral setting that is associated with the second classification.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein presenting a content of the first notification as a summary is based at least in part on the first classification and a determination that an age of the first notification does not exceed a first max deferral setting that is associated with the first classification, the first max deferral setting being longer than the second max deferral setting.

27. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising displaying to the user a list of possible states of the device that could be monitored, the list including a length of pauses in typing, actions in an application, and a length of pauses after actions in an application.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising receiving from the user a context associated with selected possible states of the device that could be monitored.